

#### Columbia Telecommunications Corporation

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November 1, 2006

#### Via Electronic Transmission

ATTACHMENT "E"

Mr. Doug Breisch
Television and Telecommunications Manager
Information and Technology Department
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Level
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: T-Mobile Monopole – Julius West Middle School - 651 Great Falls Road

Dear Mr. Breisch:

As requested, this is to provide our comment on the additional information we received on October 27th regarding the proposed T-Mobile monopole on Great Falls Road.

## **T-Mobile Proposal**

T-Mobile has revised their application to reduce the height of the monopole from 70' high to 50' high in the same location on the property as originally proposed. All else about the application appears to be the same: the monopole will be designed to accommodate additional antennas from at least two other carriers, the monopole and related equipment will be enclosed by a chain link fence, and the monopole will have a "low-profile" triangular array of nine antennas (three per each of three sectors) attached at the 47' level.

## **Review of RF Information**

T-Mobile submitted what appears to be a new set of RF contour and drive test maps illustrating the expected coverage with antennas at the 50' level. Overall, based on our comparison of the most recent maps with those we last reviewed, we see no significant difference in the drive test results. We note that when comparing the RF contour maps to the drive test maps, the red and green colors on the contour maps represent the same range of signal levels shown on the drive test maps in green and yellow. Based on our review of the maps, it appears that the drive test results correlate to the expected coverage illustrated on the computer generated contour maps.

The applicant also submitted another set of drive test results illustrated in a different format than what we had previously seen, but the results appear to be the same as the other drive test maps submitted with this application. The additional information also included a map showing what

Mr. Doug Breisch Julius West Application November 1, 2006 Page 2 of 2

appears to be T-Mobile's "BAN" (billable account numbers) data that we presume illustrates the locations of their subscribers in the area around the proposed site.

A revised analysis of the RF emissions with antennas at the lower above ground elevations was also submitted with the recent filing. T-Mobile's analysis concludes that the site is still within the FCC's guidelines for RF emissions. Based on our review of that information, we concur that the calculated RF exposure is within FCC limits for this type of facility.

# Alternatives to Minimize the Impact of the Monopole

Lowering the height of the proposed monopole to the 50' level will bring the top of the monopole to approximately the height of the adjacent trees. This will reduce the visual impact of the facility compared to its original 70' height. We have attached a copy of our site visit photo illustrating the approximate height of the monopole at the 70' level and the 50' level to compare the difference between the two.

With regard to the appearance of the equipment area, as we commented in our initial report on this application, a wooden fence would better screen the equipment area than the chain link fence shown on the plans.

Stealth options for the proposed monopole discussed earlier now seem unnecessary. A "flagpole" would likely make the structure more visible, and a "tree" design would necessarily make the structure taller than the proposed 50' height to allow for the faux branches attached above the antennas which top out at about the 50' level. Other options that may further minimize the appearance of the structure include use of a three antenna flush mount design, or painting the monopole and antennas to better blend in with trees next to the monopole.

Please let me know if you have any questions about our review or need further assistance.

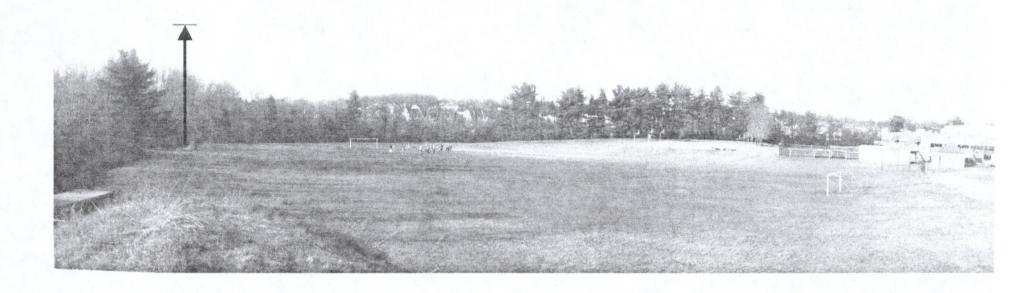
Sincerely,

Robert P. Hunnicutt

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Attachment

cc: Ed Donohue Cas Chasten Julius West monopole at approximately the 70' height as proposed.



Julius West monopole at approximately the 50' height as proposed.

